

1. Listing of the claims:

1-3. (Canceled).

4. (Previously Presented) An automatic refresh request generation system for a data backup system, the system comprising:

a computer network with data backup activity performed by a plurality of data backup products wherein each data backup product generates records relating to the data backup activity;

a host computer connected to the computer network that executes a canonical backup device; and

the canonical backup device further comprising a backup engine plug-in that will obtain records of data backup activity from each data backup product and a refresh request unit that operates in the background of the host computer, the refresh request unit further comprising a timer that determines if the hour of the current day has changed, means for checking an automatic request determiner to determine if a refresh request for the particular server is automatically initiated and means for initiating a refresh request if the refresh request has been initiated.

5. (Previously Presented) A system for inserting records from one or more data backup products into a canonical database, comprising:

a computer network with data backup activity performed by a plurality of data backup products wherein each data backup product generates records relating to the data backup activity;

a host computer connected to the computer network that executes a canonical backup device; and

the canonical backup device further comprising a backup engine plug-in that will obtain records of data backup activity from each data backup product and a database insertion unit that inserts the data from each record of a data backup product into a canonical database, the database insertion unit further comprising means for inserting data from the record into a data backup portion, means for inserting data from the record into a backup client portion, means for inserting data from the record into a backup target portion, means for inserting data from the

record into a backup device name portion and means for inserting data from the record into a backup level portion.

6. (Previously Presented) A method for inserting records from one or more data backup products into a canonical database, each data backup product connected to a computer network and each data backup product generating records relating to the data backup activity for the data backup product, the method comprising:

obtaining records of data backup activity from each data backup product; and

inserting the data from each record of a data backup product into a canonical database, the database insertion further comprising inserting data from the record into a data backup portion, inserting data from the record into a backup client portion, inserting data from the record into a backup target portion, inserting data from the record into a backup device name portion and inserting data from the record into a backup level portion.